

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of January 14 - January 18, 2008**

1. Inclement Weather Hotline: The Recreation Department has a hotline for the public to check on the status of weather cancellations for recreation programs. Simply dial 301-891-7101 ext 5605. Please be aware that the Recreation Department follows Montgomery County Public Schools for program cancellations. If the public schools close due to weather conditions, Recreation classes and events will also be canceled. If in doubt, call this number! *(Recreation)*

2. Martin Luther King Celebration: The City's Martin Luther King celebration will be held on Friday, January 18, from 7:00pm - 8:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Takoma Park Middle School. Various local performers will share their talents in music, dance, storytelling and step. Refreshments will be served. Please join your neighbors in this annual tribute. City TV crews are planning to cover this event week, and they will also be covering the Third Thursday Poetry series. *(Recreation & Communications)*

3. Passing of Senator Britt: City Councilmembers and staff mourn the passing of State Senator Gwendolyn Britt last Saturday. She ably represented District 47, which includes the Langley Park area, and served us all well. A resolution in her honor will be considered by the Council on January 28. *(Deputy City Manager)*

4. Passing of Former City Administrator James Wilson: Councilmembers and staff also mourn the passing of former Takoma Park City Administrator James Wilson last Sunday. Mr. Wilson served as City Administrator until his retirement in 1992. The viewing will be held this evening, Thursday, January 17, 2008 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., at the Hines Rinaldi Funeral Home, 11800 New Hampshire Avenue in Silver Spring. The funeral and repast will be held on Friday, January 18 at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Sorrows, Larch Avenue here in Takoma Park. Mr. Wilson will be buried at the Gate of Heaven Cemetery, 13801 Georgia Avenue, in Silver Spring. *(Executive Assistant)*

5. Public Hearing on Future of Piney Branch Pool: A public hearing will be held on February 11 at the special time of 6:45 pm before the Takoma Park City Council. Your comments are welcomed on whether or not the public pool at Piney Branch Elementary School should be reopened, converted to a gymnasium, or other options considered. Background information is on the City's website at www.takomaparkmd.gov. *(Deputy City Manager)*

6. Metrorail Service Delays: Metrorail service will have significant delays this weekend due to maintenance work at the Metro Center station. Travel on all lines going through Metro Center will be disrupted over the Martin Luther King holiday weekend and then again during the Presidents' Day holiday weekend in February. Details are available on the WMATA website at http://www.wmata.com/about/met_news/story.cfm?ID=1664. *(Deputy City Manager)*

7. Takoma Langley Crossroads Sector Plan (Wards 6 and 2): At last Wednesday night's Joint Commission Meeting at the Langley Park Community Center, Ward 6 Council member Douglas Barry offered comments on behalf of the City regarding the initiation of the sector plan (small area master plan update in preparation for the Purple Line stop) for the intersection of University Boulevard and New Hampshire Avenue. He commented that "it would take a City and two Counties to create a village for our children" and that the recent Citizen's survey found that 80% of respondents would not walk in the area now after dark. Before a packed room, and with simultaneous Spanish translation, the Joint Commission (Montgomery County and Prince George's County Planning Boards) approved the proposed goals and outreach strategy. This report may be viewed online at www.mnccppc.org/tlc. *(Housing and Community Development)*

8. New Hampshire Gardens Neighborhood Traffic Calming (Ward 6): The New Hampshire Gardens Neighborhood met with City planning staff Ilona Blanchard to discuss concerns, issues and ideas regarding traffic in the neighborhood on Tuesday evening, January 15 at the New Hampshire Avenue Recreation Center. It is expected that the neighborhood will meet again with staff in early February. *(Housing and Community Development)*

9. The Chief & Officers in Meetings:

- On January 15, Chief Ricucci met with Paula Rehr, of Company B Productions, and gave a "Chief Speaks Out" segment for broadcast in February. Also, Cpl. Tina Smith met with the same production company and spoke about senior citizens being aware of phone and in-person scams, as well as business owners being cognizant of securing their businesses when closed to avoid burglaries.
- On January 16, CSAFE attended the Takoma/Langley Crossroads Sector Plan Community meeting.
- On January 18, Chief Ricucci will meet with the Metropolitan Police Department's Commander Linda Brown of the 4th District to discuss mutual problems. Partners on Patrol with the 4th District continues. *(Police)*

10. Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 70 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, seven (7) vehicle impounds, three (3) DUI arrests and one (1) warrant service. *(Police)*

11. Silver Foxes Senior Club and Victory Tower: Paula Lisowski, coordinator for Takoma Park seniors program, met with Barbara Crawford, interim activity coordinator for Victory Tower residents, on January 14 to plan joint programs for 2008. The coordinators are in the planning stage for their first event, a Valentine's Party on February 14th at Victory Tower from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. More details to follow in the coming weeks. *(Recreation)*

12. Water Main Break: The Takoma Park Middle School closed early on Monday because of a water main break. Many of the kids ended up at the community center where the staff opened the game room to accommodate the influx. The room was opened 3 hours earlier than scheduled. *(Recreation)*